

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08  
EA-10 FRB-03 INR-10 IO-13 NEA-10 NSAE-00 OPIC-03  
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O R 141410Z JUL 78

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2635

INFO AMCONSUL ADANA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 5173

USEEC

USOECD

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: EEC, PEPR, TU

SUBJ: EC/TURKEY RELATIONS

REF: (A) ANKARA 4416, (B) BRUSSELS 13558

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SUMMARY: VISIT OF EC TEAM TO ANKARA JULY 17-18 IS REGARDING BY TURKS USEFUL PRIMARILY AS A DEMONSTRATION OF TURKEY'S CONTINUED INTEREST IN EC MEMBERSHIP. TURKS HOPE THAT DISCUSSIONS MAY HELP TO MOVE ISSUES THAT HAVE BEEN STALEMATED (FINANCIAL AID, AGRICULTURAL TRADE, MOVEMENT OF TURKISH WORKERS WITHIN THE EC). THEY WILL REQUEST EC ASSISTANCE IN MEETING TRADE COM-

PETITION WITH COMMON MARKET AND EXPRESS THEIR INTEREST IN AN ECONOMIC AND INDUSTIRAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT. DESPITE THIS INVOLVEMENT, ECEVIT GOVERNMENT IS NOT COMMITTED IN ITS OWN THINKING TO ULTIMATE EC MEMBERSHIP. TURKEY INSISTS THAT ARRANGEMENTS WITH EC MUST ASSURE IT TRADE-COMPETITIVE STATUS WITH THE COMMUNITY, BOTH AS AN ASSOCIATE AND AS A FULL MEMBER. END SUMMARY.

1. GROUP OF EEC TECHNICIANS ARRIVING IN TURKEY FOR TALKS JULY 17-18 IS COMING "TO TAKE THE AIR" AND BE ABLE TO REPORT BACK TO EC COMMISSION THAT TURKEY CONTINUES TO BE INTERESTED IN ULTIMATE MEMBERSHIP IN COMMUNITY. YILDIRIM KESKIN, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, MFA DEPARTMENT OF EC AFFAIRS, TOLD ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL COUNSELOR JULY 13 THAT MEETING, WHICH WILL NOT BE AT A POLICY LEVEL, WILL SERVE MAINLY TO SIGNAL TURKEY'S CONTINUED INTEREST IN EC. IT IS A FOLLOW-UP OF PRIME MINISTER ECEVIT'S VISIT IN MAY TO EC COMMISSION. AS A SHOW OF THIS INTEREST, MINISTER OF STATE FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS HIKMET CETIN AND FOREIGN MINISTER GUNDUZ OKCUN WILL EACH RECEIVE EC VISITORS BRIEFLY.

2. AS TURKS SEE IT, THEY AND COMMISSION STAFF WILL PASS THE TIME DISCUSSING (A) WAYS OF ACHIEVING MOVEMENT IN THREE AREAS OF PRESENT STALEMATE: EC FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO TURKEY, FREE MOVEMENT OF TURKISH WORKERS WITHIN

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EC LABOR MARKET, AND ACCESS FOR TURKISH AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS INTO COMMON MARKET, AND (B) ECONOMIC EFFECTS ON TURKEY OF EC ENLARGEMENT.

3. ON LATTER POINT, KESKIN SAID THAT TURKEY WILL INDICATE TO THIS TECHNICAL GROUP AND AT LATER MEETINGS ON POLITICAL LEVEL THAT TURKEY EXPECTS EC TO HELP IT TO MEET GROWING COMPETITION THAT ITS PRODUCTS AND WORKERS WILL FACE WITHIN COMMUNITY. WHILE GREECE IS PRESENTLY NO ECONOMIC DANGER TO TURKEY, ITS ADMISSION TO FULL MEMBERSHIP IN EC COULD REDUCE TURKEY'S SALES IN COMMON MARKET SINCE THE ECONOMIES OF THE TWO COUNTRIES ARE COMPETITIVE. TURKEY IS ALSO CONCERNED, HE SAID, ABOUT THE IMPACT OF SPAIN'S ADMISSION ON TURKISH EXPORTS TO COMMUNITY. AND TURKEY FEARS THAT ENTRY OF PORTUGAL, WITH ITS OWN HIGH UNEMPLOYMENT, WILL CUT INTO NUMBER OF JOBS AVAILABLE TO TURKISH WORKERS WITHIN EC. COMMUNITY IS PREPARING TO AID GREEK INDUSTRY TO BECOME COMPETITIVE AND TO ASSIST GREEK AGRICULTURE, KESKIN NOTED. IT IS ALSO HELPING PORTUGAL. THEREFORE, EC MUST AID TURKEY, ALTHOUGH PERHPAS NOT YET IN SAME MEASURE. ONE WAY FOR IT TO HELP WOULD BE TO RESERVE A PLACE FOR TURKISH INDUSTRIAL AND AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS, KESKIN SAID.

4. AT MEETINGS, TURKS WILL ALSO REAFFIRM THEIR INTEREST IN CONCLUDING AN ECONOMIC AND INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH THE EC (REF A), PROPOSED TWO YEARS AGO BY THE COMMUNITY.

5. KESKIN REPEATED THAT A TURKISH DELEGATION WILL GO TO BRUSSELS, PRESUMABLY IN SEPTEMBER, AFTER FOURTH FIVE-YEAR DEVELOPMENT PLAN HAS BEEN DRAFTED, FOR MORE DECISIVE TALKS AT HIGH LEVEL.

6. DESPITE PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO EC COMMISSION AND ARRIVAL OF TECHNICAL GROUP, KESKIN SAID THAT GOT HAS NOT MADE DECISIVE COMMITMENT TO EC MEMBERSHIP. BEFORE IT CAN DO THAT, HE SAID, TURKEY'S AGREEMENTS WITH EC MUST WORK. COMMUNITY  
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MUST NOT LEAVE TURKEY ALONE WITHOUT ASSISTANCE THAT IT NEEDS TO COMPETE; COMMUNITY AND TURKEY MUST WORK TOGETHER TOWARD OBJECTIVE OF TURKISH MEMBERSHIP, KESKIN HELD.

7. COMMENT: ECEVIT GOVERNMENT IS SEEKING AS MANY ADVANTAGES AS IT CAN OBTAIN FROM EC THROUGH AGREEMENTS ALREADY MADE OR TO BE NEGOTIATED. NEVERTHELESS, IT HAS NOT FIXED ITS RESOLVE IMMUTABLY ON COMMUNITY MEMBERSHIP. IN SPEAKING OF TURKEY'S CURRENT ENERGETIC EXPANSION OF BILATERAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH SOVIET UNION AND EASTERN EUROPEAN AND MIDDLE EASTERN COUNTRIES, KESKIN REMARKED THAT TURKEY IS UTILIZING EVERY MEANS TO MEET ITS ECONOMIC NEEDS. IN DOING SO, HE SAID, TURKEY IS SEPARATING POLITICS FROM TRADE. THIS TURKISH GOVERNMENT'S ALLEGIANCE TO CONCEPT OF EC MEMBERSHIP APPEARS TO BE DETERMINED LARGELY BY ITS PERCEPTION OF ATTENDANT ECONOMIC BENEFITS. DILLON

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